

Message Text

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43

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JRATIGAN:VSS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 271556

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, GR (PAPAGEORGIOU, EFTHYMOS)

SUBJECT: PAPAGEORGIOU-LAINGEN MEETING

1. DURING OCT 29 BACKGROUNDER WITH DEP ASST SECY LAINGEN, EFTHYMOS PAPAGEORGIOU OF AKROPOLIS SPOKE FRANKLY OF CONTINUED ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE, WHICH, THOUGH IT MIGHT HAVE SUBSIDED SOMEWHAT ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION, HAD FOUND NEW IMPETUS WITH REGARD TO THE AEGEAN DISPUTE. HE THOUGHT THERE WAS A LIMIT TO HOW LONG CARAMANLIS COULD MAINTAIN HIS SUPPORT FOR US TIES AND US BASES, AND SUGGESTED THAT THE USG REVEAL ITS WARNING TO MAKARIOS OF THE IMPENDING COUP IN 1974, OR OTHER EVIDENCE OF ITS GOOD FAITH, ALONG LINES OF SULZBERGER NY TIMES COLUMN OCT 16.

2. LAINGEN NOTED OUR CONCERN ABOUT ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE BUT SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD SUBSIDE ONLY WHEN PROGRESS WAS MADE ON CYPRUS AND/OR AEGEAN QUESTIONS. LAINGEN ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT THE USG IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT OF GREECE, AND STRENGTHENING OF GREECE'S DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. HE STRESSED GREAT IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO ALLIANCE RELATIONSHIPS WITH BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY.

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3. PAPAGEORGIOU HAS ALSO ATTENDED SEVERAL POLITICAL

RALLIES, AND AN OCHI DAY CELEBRATION ON LONG ISLAND.

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